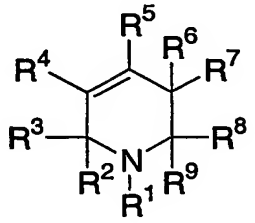
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound according to Formula I:



I

wherein;

a is 0 or 1;
b is 0 or 1;
m is 0, 1, or 2;
n is 0 or 1;
r is 0 or 1;
s is 0 or 1;

R^1 is selected from:

1) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)C_1\text{-}C_{10}$ alkyl;
2) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)$aryl;
3) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)C_2\text{-}C_{10}$ alkenyl;
4) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)C_2\text{-}C_{10}$ alkynyl;
5) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)C_3\text{-}C_8$ cycloalkyl;
6) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)$heterocyclyl;
7) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)NR^cR^{c'}$;
8) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nSO_2NR^cR^{c'}$;
9) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nSO_2C_1\text{-}C_{10}$ alkyl;
10) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nSO_2C_2\text{-}C_{10}$ alkenyl;
11) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nSO_2C_2\text{-}C_{10}$ alkynyl;
12) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nSO_2$-aryl;
13) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nSO_2$-heterocyclyl;
14) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nSO_2\text{-}C_3\text{-}C_8$ cycloalkyl;

15) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nP(=O)R^dR^{d'}$;
16) aryl;
17) heterocyclyl; and
18) $C_1\text{-}C_{10}$ alkyl;

said alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, alkylene, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R^{10};

R^2, R^3, R^6, R^8 and R^9 are independently selected from:

1) H;
2) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_1\text{-}C_{10})$alkyl;
3) $O_r(C_1\text{-}C_3)$perfluoroalkyl;
4) $(C_0\text{-}C_6)$alkylene-$S(O)_mR^a$;
5) oxo;
6) OH;
7) halo;
8) CN;
9) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_2\text{-}C_{10})$alkenyl;
10) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_2\text{-}C_{10})$alkynyl;
11) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_3\text{-}C_6)$cycloalkyl;
12) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0\text{-}C_6)$alkylene-aryl;
13) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0\text{-}C_6)$alkylene-heterocyclyl;
14) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0\text{-}C_6)$alkylene-$N(R^b)_2$;
15) $C(O)R^a$;
16) $(C_0\text{-}C_6)$alkylene-CO_2R^a;
17) C(O)H;
18) $(C_0\text{-}C_6)$alkylene-CO_2H;
19) $C(O)N(R^b)_2$;
20) $S(O)_mR^a$; and
21) $S(O)_2N(R^b)_2$;

said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, alkylene and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with up to three substituents selected from R^b, OH, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkoxy, halogen, CO_2H, CN, $O(C=O)C_1\text{-}C_6$ alkyl, oxo, and $N(R^b)_2$;

R^4 and R^7 are selected from:

1) alkyl;

2) C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl;
3) aryl; and
4) heterocyclyl;

said alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl and heterocyclyl are optionally substituted with up to 3 substituents selected from R^{13};

R^5 is:

1) H;
2) C_1-C_{10} alkyl;
3) C_2-C_{10} alkenyl;
4) C_2-C_{10} alkynyl;
5) CN;
6) halo;
7) CO_2H;
8) (C_1-C_6)alkyl amino; and
9) (C_1-C_6)alkyl hydroxy;

R^{10} is:

1) $(C=O)_aO_bC_1$-C_{10} alkyl;
2) $(C=O)_aO_b$aryl;
3) C_2-C_{10} alkenyl;
4) C_2-C_{10} alkynyl;
5) $(C=O)_aO_b$ heterocyclyl;
6) CO_2H;
7) halo;
8) CN;
9) OH;
10) O_bC_1-C_6 perfluoroalkyl;
11) $O_a(C=O)_bNR^{11}R^{12}$;
12) $S(O)_mR^a$;
13) $S(O)_2NR^{11}R^{12}$;
14) oxo;
15) CHO;
16) $(N=O)R^{11}R^{12}$; or
17) $(C=O)_aO_bC_3$-C_8 cycloalkyl;

said alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, and cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R^{13};

R^{11} and R^{12} are independently selected from:

1) H;
2) $(C=O)O_bC_1$-C_{10} alkyl;
3) $(C=O)O_bC_3$-C_8 cycloalkyl;
4) $(C=O)O_b$aryl;
5) $(C=O)O_b$heterocyclyl;
6) C_1-C_{10} alkyl;
7) aryl;
8) C_2-C_{10} alkenyl;
9) C_2-C_{10} alkynyl;
10) heterocyclyl;
11) C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl;
12) SO_2R^a;
13) $(C=O)NR^b{}_2$;
14) oxo; and
15) OH;

said alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocylyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R^{13}; or

R^{11} and R^{12} can be taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached to form a monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle with 5-7 members in each ring and optionally containing, in addition to the nitrogen, one or two additional heteroatoms selected from N, O and S, said monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R^{13};

R^{13} is selected from:

1) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_1$-$C_{10})$alkyl;
2) $O_r(C_1$-$C_3)$perfluoroalkyl;
3) $(C_0$-$C_6)$alkylene-$S(O)_mR^a$;
4) oxo;
5) OH;
6) halo;

7) CN;
8) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_2\text{-}C_{10})$alkenyl;
9) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_2\text{-}C_{10})$alkynyl;
10) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_3\text{-}C_6)$cycloalkyl;
11) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0\text{-}C_6)$alkylene-aryl;
12) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0\text{-}C_6)$alkylene-heterocyclyl;
13) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0\text{-}C_6)$alkylene-$N(R^b)_2$;
14) $C(O)R^a$;
15) $(C_0\text{-}C_6)$alkylene-CO_2R^a;
16) C(O)H;
17) $(C_0\text{-}C_6)$alkylene-CO_2H;
18) $C(O)N(R^b)_2$;
19) $S(O)_mR^a$; and
20) $S(O)_2N(R^b)_2$;

said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, alkylene and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with up to three substituents selected from R^b, OH, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkoxy, halogen, CO_2H, CN, $O(C=O)C_1\text{-}C_6$ alkyl, oxo, and $N(R^b)_2$;

R^a is $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_6)$cycloalkyl, aryl, or heterocyclyl;
said alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heterocylyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R^f;

R^b is H, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_6)$cycloalkyl, $(C=O)OC_1\text{-}C_6$ alkyl, $(C=O)C_1\text{-}C_6$ alkyl or $S(O)_2R^a$;
said alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heterocylyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R^f;

R^c and $R^{c'}$ are independently selected from: H, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl and $(C_3\text{-}C_6)$cycloalkyl, optionally substituted with one, two or three substituents selected from R^{13}, or

R^c and $R^{c'}$ can be taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached to form a monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle with 4-7 members in each ring and optionally containing, in addition to the nitrogen, one or two additional heteroatoms selected from N, O and S, said monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted with one, two or three substituents selected from R^{13};

R^d and $R^{d'}$ are independently selected from: $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkoxy and $NR^b{}_2$, or

R^d and $R^{d'}$ can be taken together with the phosphorous to which they are attached to form a monocyclic heterocycle with 4-7 members the ring and optionally containing, in addition to the phosphorous, one or two additional heteroatoms selected from NR^e, O and S, said monocyclic heterocycle optionally substituted with one, two or three substituents selected from R^{13};

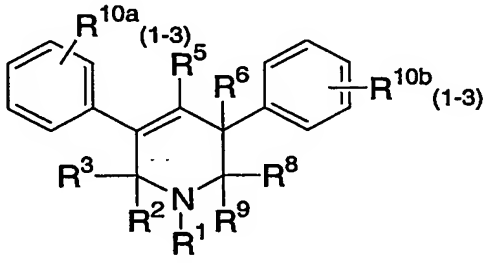
R^e is selected from: H and $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

R^f is selected from: heterocyclyl, amino substituted heterocyclyl, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, amino $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl amino, hydroxy $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, OH and NH_2; and

X is selected from O, NR^e and S;

or a pharmacuetically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

2. The compound according to Claim 1, as illustrated by Formula II:



II

wherein:

R^{10a} and R^{10b} are independently selected from:

1) H;
2) $C_1\text{-}C_{10}$ alkyl;
3) $C_2\text{-}C_{10}$ alkenyl;
4) $C_2\text{-}C_{10}$ alkynyl;
5) OH;
6) CN;

7) halo;
8) CHO;
9) CO_2H;
10) $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl amino; and
11) $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl hydroxy;

and all other substituents and variables are as defined in Claim 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

3. The compound according to Claim 2 wherein:

R^1 is selected from:

1) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)C_1\text{-}C_{10}$ alkyl;
2) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)$aryl;
3) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)C_2\text{-}C_{10}$ alkenyl;
4) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)C_2\text{-}C_{10}$ alkynyl;
5) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)C_3\text{-}C_8$ cycloalkyl;
6) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)$heterocyclyl;
7) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_n(C{=}X)NR^cR^{c'}$;
8) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nSO_2NR^cR^{c'}$;
9) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nSO_2C_1\text{-}C_{10}$ alkyl;
10) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nSO_2$-aryl;
11) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nSO_2$-heterocyclyl;
12) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nSO_2\text{-}C_3\text{-}C_8$ cycloalkyl;
13) $(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{-alkylene})_nP(=O)R^dR^{d'}$;
14) aryl;
15) heterocyclyl; and
16) $C_1\text{-}C_{10}$ alkyl;

said alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl; cycloalkyl, alkylene, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R^{10};

and all other substituents and variables are as defined in Claim 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

4. The compound according to Claim 3 wherein:

R^1 is selected from:

1) $(C=O)C_1$-C_{10} alkyl;
2) (C=O)aryl;
3) $(C=O)C_2$-C_{10} alkenyl;
4) $(C=O)C_2$-C_{10} alkynyl;
5) $(C=O)C_3$-C_8 cycloalkyl;
6) $(C=O)NR^cR^{c'}$;
7) $SO_2NR^cR^{c'}$;
8) SO_2C_1-C_{10} alkyl;
9) SO_2-aryl;
10) SO_2-heterocyclyl;
11) SO_2-C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl; and
12) $P(=O)R^dR^{d'}$;

said alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, alkylene, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R^{10};

R^2, R^3, R^6, R^8 and R^9 are independently:

1) H;
2) C_1-C_{10} alkyl;
3) C_2-C_{10} alkenyl;
4) C_2-C_{10} alkynyl;
5) CHO;
6) CO_2H;
7) $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl amino;
8) $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl hydroxy;
9) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_1$-$C_{10})$alkyl; and
10) $C(O)N(R^b)_2$;

R^5 is:

1) H;
2) $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl amino; and
3) $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl hydroxy;

and all other substituents and variables are as defined in Claim 3;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

5. The compound according to Claim 4 wherein:

R^1 is selected from:

1) $(C=O)NR^cR^{c'}$;
2) $SO_2NR^cR^{c'}$;
3) SO_2C_1-C_{10} alkyl; and
4) $(C=O)C_1$-C_{10} alkyl;

said alkyl is optionally substituted with one, two or three substituents selected from R^{10};

and all other substituents and variables are as defined in Claim 4;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

6. A compound selected from:

5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-N,N-dimethyl-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridine-1(2H)-carboxamide;

1-acetyl-5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine;

5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridine-1(2*H*)-carboxamide;

5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-N,N-dimethyl-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridine-1(2H)-sulfonamide;

(1S)-1-cyclopropyl-2-[5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]-2-oxoethanamine;

5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-N-methyl-N-(1-methylpiperidin-4-yl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridine-1(2H)-carboxamide;

5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-N-[2-(dimethylamino)ethyl]-N-methyl-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridine-1(2H)-carboxamide

5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-ylcarbonyl)-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine

5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-*N*-(2-hydroxyethyl)-*N*-methyl-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridine-1(2*H*)-carboxamide

5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-1-(2,2-dimethylpropanoyl)-3-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine

4-{[5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2*H*)-yl]carbonyl}morpholine

4-{[5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]acetyl}morpholine

2-[5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]-N,N-dimethylacetamide

1-[5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2*H*)-yl]-2-methyl-1-oxopropan-2-ol

N-tert-butyloxycarbonyl-1-[5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]-1-oxopropan-2-amine

1-[5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]-2-methyl-1-oxopropan-2-amine

3-[5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]-3-oxopropan-1-amine

1-[5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]-1-oxopropan-2-amine

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

7. A compound selected from:

2-[{[5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2*H*)-yl]carbonyl}(methyl)amino]-*N*,*N*-dimethylethanaminium trifluoroacetate

5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-1-[2-(dimethylamino)-2-oxoethyl]-3-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridinium trifluoroacetate

5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-1-[2-(dimethylamino)-2-oxoethyl]-3-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridinium trifluoroacetate

1-[5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]-2-methyl-1-oxopropan-2-aminium trifluoroacetate

3-[5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]-3-oxopropan-1-aminium trifluoroacetate and

1-[5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-1(2H)-yl]-1-oxopropan-2-aminium trifluoroacetate.

8. The compound according to Claim 6 which is selected from:

5-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridine-1(2*H*)-carboxamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutical carrier, and dispersed therein, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

10. A method for treating cancer which comprises administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

11. A pharmaceutical composition made by combining the compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

12. A process for making a pharmaceutical composition comprising combining a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

13. The composition of Claim 11 further comprising a second compound selected from: an estrogen receptor modulator, an androgen receptor modulator, a retinoid

receptor modulator, a cytotoxic/cytostatic agent, an antiproliferative agent, a prenyl-protein transferase inhibitor, an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor, an HIV protease inhibitor, a reverse transcriptase inhibitor, an angiogenesis inhibitor, a PPAR-γ agonist, a PPAR-δ agonist; an inhibitor of cell proliferation and survival signaling, an agent that interfers with a cell cycle checkpoint, and an apoptosis inducing agent.

14. The composition of Claim 13, wherein the second compound is an angiogenesis inhibitor selected from the group consisting of a tyrosine kinase inhibitor, an inhibitor of epidermal-derived growth factor, an inhibitor of fibroblast-derived growth factor, an inhibitor of platelet derived growth factor, an MMP (matrix metalloprotease) inhibitor, an integrin blocker, interferon-α, interleukin-12, pentosan polysulfate, a cyclooxygenase inhibitor, carboxyamidotriazole, combretastatin A-4, squalamine, 6-O-chloroacetyl-carbonyl)-fumagillol, thalidomide, angiostatin, troponin-1, or an antibody to VEGF.

15. The composition of Claim 13, wherein the second compound is an estrogen receptor modulator selected from tamoxifen and raloxifene.

16. A method of treating cancer which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with radiation therapy.

17. A method of treating or preventing cancer which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with a compound selected from: an estrogen receptor modulator, an androgen receptor modulator, retinoid receptor modulator, a cytotoxic/cytostatic agent, an antiproliferative agent, a prenyl-protein transferase inhibitor, an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor, an HIV protease inhibitor, a reverse transcriptase inhibitor, an angiogenesis inhibitor, a PPAR-γ agonists, a PPAR-δ agonist, an inhibitor of inherent multidrug resistance, an anti-emetic agent, an agent useful in the treatment of anemia, an agent useful in the treatment of neutropenia, an immunologic-enhancing drug, an inhibitor of cell proliferation and survival signaling, an agent that interfers with a cell cycle checkpoint, and an apoptosis inducing agent.

18. A method of treating cancer which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with radiation therapy and a compound selected from: an estrogen receptor modulator, an androgen receptor

modulator, retinoid receptor modulator, a cytotoxic/cytostatic agent, an antiproliferative agent, a prenyl-protein transferase inhibitor, an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor, an HIV protease inhibitor, a reverse transcriptase inhibitor, an angiogenesis inhibitor, a PPAR-γ agonists, a PPAR-δ agonist, an inhibitor of inherent multidrug resistance, an anti-emetic agent, an agent useful in the treatment of anemia, an agent useful in the treatment of neutropenia, an immunologic-enhancing drug, an inhibitor of cell proliferation and survival signaling, an agent that interfers with a cell cycle checkpoint, and an apoptosis inducing agent.

19. A method of treating or preventing cancer which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 and paclitaxel or trastuzumab.

20. A method of treating or preventing cancer which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 and a COX-2 inhibitor.